

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland/East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Polimex Purchase of Machine for Powder Processing from Krebs & Co., Berlin-Frohnau

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Polish state trading corporation, Polimex, purchased a machine for powder processing (Anlage zur Gewinnung von pulverfoermigen Staeuben) from Krebs & Co., Berlin-Frohnau. The entire machine, with the exception of the automatic control panel, was shipped to Poland during December 1954. The control panel will be shipped in May 1955. The Poles intend to install this machine themselves but they may call on Krebs & Co. for technical assistance if they run into difficulties. It is unlikely that the machine can be put into operation before the end of 1955 even if Krebs & Co. technicians assist with the installation.
2. The machine produced by Krebs & Co. is to be used in the production of insecticides. Specifically, the machine is designed to dilute pure DDT compounds, which are too strong for use as insecticides, with talcum powder. After processing in this machine, the compound should contain only 5% DDT and 95% talcum powder. This compound will then be used to protect crops from agricultural pests.
3. The total price for the Krebs & Co. machine was about \$83,000. Polimex displayed considerable interest in purchasing this equipment and even offered to make free dollars available or to arrange for payment from the English-Polish Clearing Fund since payment through the Polish-West German Clearing Fund was temporarily impossible. Payment was however actually arranged through the Polish-West German Clearing Fund.
4. The equipment produced by Krebs & Co. will probably be installed in the former Oberschlesisches Stickstoffwerk near Jaworzno. Most of the equipment in this Nitrogen plant was dismantled by the Soviets after World War II but the plant has reportedly been put back into operation. Chlorine is reportedly also being produced at this plant.
5. Polimex delegated an engineer named Marian Slon to accept the machine from Krebs & Co. after it arrived in Poland.

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